

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Procedure for Joining the PZPR	DATE DISTR.	6 May 1953	
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1. Anyone wishing to join the PZPR must follow a carefully laid down procedure. To start with, each candidate receives an eight-page questionnaire, in which he must give an exact account of his past history and his reasons for wishing to join the Party. The questionnaire contains many revealing questions, such as whether the candidate had been persecuted by the political authorities before 1939, whether he belonged to the police before 1939, whether he belonged to an underground organization during the war and, if he was required to do so, whether he had obeyed the order to present himself at a call-up.
2. The applicant is obliged to give the names of two sponsors who have belonged to the Party for at least 1½ years. Because there are so few Party members, this condition created considerable difficulty for the workers. The rule was modified to the extent that the sponsoring could be carried out by the Party Basic Organization secretary (sekreтары organizacji podstawowej) jointly with a member of the executive of the given place of work.
3. The factory Party committee which consists of 12 members, including a representative of the Security Police (UB), examines the application and questions the applicant on details of his past life and on his reasons for wishing to join the Party. As the intelligence of the applicant is generally limited, the answers to the questions are prepared in advance with the assistance of the Basic Party Organization secretary. The applicant is obliged to memorize the answers and to follow the instructions given him as to his behavior in front of the Party committee. The decision of the factory Party committee is then forwarded to the Municipal Party Committee (Komitet Miejski PZPR).
4. After about three months the applicant receives a candidate's identity card. (legitymacja kandydacka). Henceforth, the applicant is a Party candidate and has the obligations, though not the rights, of a full Party member. The period of candidature lasts six months. During that time the applicant must show genuine Party interest. This consists mostly of spying on his fellow-workers, denunciations, and dissemination of propaganda according to the Party line.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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381

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-2-

5. During the period of candidature the applicant is required to attend a Party training course, which takes place one evening a week, after work. This so-called third degree (i.e. the lowest) course is directed by three delegates: a member of the factory executive committee, a representative of the Municipal Party Committee, and a representative of the Security Police. The course consists of: Marxism; propaganda methods, e.g. how to explain food shortages to one's fellow workers; spying and denunciation duties.
6. If the applicant behaves in the correct Party spirit during his period of candidature, he may become a full Party member. If, on the other hand, he has shown insufficient zeal, his acceptance is delayed or he may be rejected altogether.

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